# JAPAN TOUR & CRUISE TOKYO TO SYDNEY



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# Japan Tour & Cruise Tokyo to Sydney with Flight

**Duration:** 32 days

Stay: 8 nights hotels, 22 nights cruise

Travel style: Escorted tour, cruise & one-way flight from Australia

Booking code: CRJSDP32M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 32 Days Japan Tour with Princess Cruise to Australia

# About the holiday

Treat yourself to a magnificent Asian adventure, with an escorted tour of Japan followed by a stunning cruise from Tokyo to Sydney!

Fly from Australia to Tokyo, where you'll get to explore the bustling city, with its diverse neighbourhoods, fantastic shopping, amazing restaurants and neon-bright architecture that's flanked by tranquil gardens. Enjoy the comfort of 4-star hotels as the tour takes you to the beautiful temples and shrines of Kyoto. Then venture to Osaka, where castles, art collections and delicious local cuisine awaits you.

Enjoy a night in Yokohama pre-cruise, then board *Diamond Princess* for a unique and spectacular cruise. Awarded 'Best Cruise Line in Asia,' Princess Cruises will be your guide to the brilliant colours, cultures and flavours on the 22-night voyage.

Cruise to Shimizu on the island of Honshu, Osaka and Taipei, with its architectural delights. Continue to the fascinating metropolis of Hong Kong and Manilla, then the less-visited isles of Papua New Guinea. From Milne Bay access amazing coral reefs and dive sites. Then explore the Coral Sea's Conflict Islands, where you'll witness unique tribal cultures. Track along Australia's east coast with a stop in Brisbane before reaching iconic Sydney Harbour.

# Why you'll love this trip...

It's a fabulous deal with quality inclusions: flight, first class tour & luxe cruise Discover more of Japan on an escorted tour with 4-star hotels & expert guides Live it up with a plush cabin aboard Diamond Princess from Yokohama to Sydney Enjoy cruising through Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Philippines & Papua New Guinea

#### Travel dates...

2024 - Departs 26 August

Please contact us for departures at other times of the year & current prices

Email hello@mytravelxp.com for current rates & travel deals.



# Tour & Cruise Package includes:

International Flight - One-way economy airfare to Tokyo

Fly from Melbourne, Brisbane or Sydney (surcharges apply for other cities)

Accommodation - 8 nights hotel stays in standard rooms, based on twin share

3 nights Tokyo in a 4-star hotel

2 nights Kyoto in a 4-star hotel

2 nights Osaka in a 4-star hotel

1 night Yokohama pre-cruise

**Tour - Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout (days 2-8)** 

Entrance fees as per the itinerary

Daily breakfast

High-speed Bullet Train - Tokyo to Kyoto & Osaka to Yokohama

Cruise - 22 nights Asia to Australia Cruise

One-way from Tokyo (Yokohama) to Sydney

Cruise aboard *Diamond Princess* in your choice of cabin

All meals, including breakfast, lunch & dinner on the ship

All non-chargeable entertainment on board the ship

# Package excludes:

Japan visa fees

Airport & cruise port transfers

Specialty dining and chargeable entertainment on the ship

Optional sightseeing, shore excursions & activities

Tipping for tour manager, guides & drivers

Cruise gratuities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi etc.

Any additional requests

Travel insurance is essential, we can assist with a quote

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by airline, tour operator, cruise company & local operators.

Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

# Tour special features

- Tour Tokyo, a city of ancient traditions coupled with state-of-the-art technology
- View serene Meiji Shrine honouring modern Japan's first emperor & his Empress
- Board the famous shinkansen, or "bullet train" whisking you from Tokyo to Kyoto
- Discover Kyoto, founded in the 8th century, one of the early capitals of Japan
- Stand before the celebrated Kinkaku-ji Temple, known as the "Golden Pavilion"
- Marvel at the Fushimi Inari Shrine, with its arcades of vermilion coloured torii
- Visit Osaka Castle with its extraordinary collection of art, armour & collectibles
- In Osaka, walk through bustling Kuromon Market, with vendors selling fast-food, Japanese-style

# **Itinerary**

#### DAY 1, 26 Aug - Depart for Japan

Fly one-way from Australia to Tokyo.

#### DAY 2, 27 Aug - Arrive in Tokyo

Arrive in dynamic Tokyo in the "Land of the Rising Sun"; make your way to your hotel. The remainder of the day is yours to explore Tokyo at leisure.

Overnight: Tokyo

#### DAY 3, 28 Aug - Tour of Tokyo

On today's tour of Tokyo, witness the contrast of this city of ancient traditions coupled with state-of-the-art technology. Begin your tour at the serene Meiji Shrine, nestled in a beautiful forested area that honours the first Emperor of modern Japan and his Empress. Afterward, on to the Imperial Palace, a huge parkland with magnificent gardens, the residence of Japan's Imperial family. View the famous stone arched Nijubashi bridge, that leads to the main entrance to the imperial palace. Continue to Asakusa, once Tokyo's leading entertainment district. Here, enter the massive gates to the ancient Buddhist temple of Sensoji built in the 7th century and the Kannon Temple, one of the most visited spiritual sites in the world. Stroll along bustling Nakamise Street; see endless rows of traditional local snacks and souvenirs. Tonight, discover on your own why Tokyo is one of the best cities in the world for nightlife

Overnight: Tokyo Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 4, 29 Aug - Full Day in Tokyo

Spend the day at leisure to explore all of the delights of Tokyo on your own, or, participate in the optional full day tour to Mt. Fuji and Hakone.\* Upon arrival, ascend to the 5th Station of Mt. Fuji, located at an elevation of 7,545 feet pausing to admire the gorgeous panorama of the park and lake.

After lunch, take off to the summit by cable car to marvel at the sweeping views of Hakone National Park. Enjoy a picturesque boat cruise around pristine Lake Ashi. Spend time at leisure to explore the surrounding area on your own. Afterwards, return to Tokyo

\*Weather conditions around Mt Fuji are challenging to predict, sometimes clouds will restrict views of the mountain & terrain. Additionally, poor weather conditions can sometimes prevent the ascent to the 5th Station or the operation of the cable car in Hakone. In these situations, alternative sightseeing will be provided. \*This optional tour and its inclusions are weather dependent, and subject to change

Optional: Full day Mt. Fuji & Hakone with lunch

Overnight: Tokyo Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 5, 30 Aug - Bullet Train to Kyoto, Kinkaku-ji Temple, Gion District

At the Tokyo Station, board the world-famous shinkansen, or "bullet train" that whisks you to Kyoto - a unique experience! Upon arrival, have lunch on your own. Afterward, enjoy a traditional tea ceremony, where you participate in the ritualized art of preparing, serving and drinking green tea. Your sightseeing of Kyoto begins with a visit to the celebrated gold-gilded Kinkaku-ji Temple, known as the "Golden Pavilion' surrounded by trees and nestled on a reflective pond. Conclude the city tour with a walk in Gion, Kyoto's most famous Geisha district; view the shops, restaurants and tea houses where Geisha entertain. Later, check in to your hotel and spend the evening at leisure

Overnight: Kyoto Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 6, 31 Aug - Full Day in Kyoto

Time to discover Kyoto on your own, or, join the fascinating optional tour to Hiroshima and Miyajima Island. After arriving by train, take a short ferry ride to Miyajima Island, not far from the coast. Enjoy views of the striking Itsukushima Shrine best-known for its floating torii gate, dating back to the 6th century. Spend free time on the island with its many shrines and temples before boarding the ferry to Hiroshima. A bus or tram takes you to the Peace Memorial, a historic site near where the atomic bomb exploded, dedicated to the many lives lost in Hiroshima. The burning flame that marks these graves "will only be extinguished when all nuclear weapons in the world are destroyed!" This park was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996. After this solemn visit, board the train back to Kyoto

Optional: Full day Hiroshima & Miyajima Tour

Overnight: Kyoto Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 7, 01 Sept - Kyoto City Tour, Drive to Osaka

Embark on a tour of historic Kyoto, founded in the 7th century, one of the early capitals of Japan and home of the country's most treasured remnants of Japanese imperial life. Start with a stop at Fushimi Inari Taisha, an impressive Shinto shrine that sits at the foot of Mount Inari. Marvel at the ten thousand vermilion torii gates that line the paths up the mountain. Later, depart Kyoto and drive south to cosmopolitan Osaka, Japan's third largest city, known for its cuisine and nightlife. Begin your exploration at Kuromon Market, an Osaka landmark, with vendors selling fresh food and fast-food Japanese-style. Stop for lunch, or just try the tasty snacks. Then, free time to wander along the iconic Shinsaibashi and Dotonbori shopping streets with an array of fabulous selection of fashionable boutiques. Conclude the tour with a visit to dramatic Osaka Castle, built as a display of power in the 16th century, strategically looming over the surrounding park and moat. Inside, see an excellent collection of art, armour, and collectibles. Check in to your hotel. This evening, discover Osaka's regional cuisine

Overnight: Osaka Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 8, 02 Sept Full Day in Osaka

The morning is at leisure to enjoy this city on your own, or, embark on the optional tour to the 8th century Imperial capital of Nara. In this repository of Japan's cultural heritage, there are eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites and a wealth of historic treasures including some of Japan's oldest Buddhist temples. Arrive at the exquisite wooden Todai-ji Temple, home of the impressive Daibutsu (Great Buddha) bronze statue, rising over 50 feet high and visit the famous and beautiful Kasuga Grand Shrine displaying over 3,000 antique hanging bronze and stone lanterns. Continue to Nara Park to see the over 1,000 tame deer roaming freely in the park.

Optional: Imperial Capital of Nara (AM)

Overnight: Osaka

#### DAY 9, 03 Sept - Bullet train from Osaka to Yokohama

This morning board your bullet train from Osaka to Yokohama. The train trip takes 3 hours. Yokohama, a Japanese city south of Tokyo, was one of the first Japanese ports opened to foreign trade in 1859. It contains a large Chinatown with hundreds of Chinese restaurants and shops. It's also known for Sankei-en Garden, a botanical park containing preserved Japanese residences from different eras, and the seaside Minato Mirai district, site of the 296m Landmark Tower.

Overnight Yokohama

## DAY 10, 04 Sept - Board Diamond Princess

Check out of the hotel this morning, then the day is free until it's time to make your way to the cruise port in Yokohama and board Diamond Princess for your cruise to Australia. Cruise departs at 4:00pm.

DAY 11, 05 Sept - Shimizu (for Mount Fuji), Japan

Arrive 7:00 AM, Depart 2:00 PM

Shimizu is located on the coast of Suruga Bay, 140km SW of Tokyo, on the island of Honshu, facing the Pacific Ocean. Shimizu-ku is actually a ward or sub-division of the city of Shiuoka. The Kakita River flows through the town.

#### DAY 12, 06 Sept - Osaka, Japan

Arrive 9:00 AM, Depart 9:00 PM

Osaka, the heart of the Greater Osaka Area, is located at the mouth of the Yodo River on Osaka Bay, and is the third largest city in Japan. Historically it is also regarded as the commercial capital of Japan, as evidenced by its daytime population being over a million greater than its night time population. From above ground and underground shopping malls and specialised shopping complexes, to the unusual America Mura which offers both new and used clothing, as well as flea markets, and the Asia Pacific Trade Centre with its international wholesale market, shopping here truly is a fascinating experience.

DAY 13, 07 Sept - At Sea

DAY 14, 08 Sept - At Sea

#### DAY 15, 09 Sept - Taipei (Keelung), Taiwan

Arrive 7:00 AM, Depart 6:00 PM

Taipei, located on the Danshui River, is the largest city and the capital of Taiwan, in the Republic of China. It lies 25 km SW of the Pacific Ocean port Keelung in northern Taiwan. Now a sprawling metropolis, for those who love the hustle and bustle of a big city, it truly is a great place to visit.

DAY 16, 10 Sept - At Sea

#### DAY 17, 11 Sept - Hong Kong

Arrive 7:00 AM, Depart 6:00 PM

Hong Kong, situated on China's south coast and enclosed by the Pearl River Delta and the South China Sea, is a kaleidoscope of life, a sophisticated fusion of East and West, a city of diversity where new and old meet at every turn. Hong Kong offers a host of memorable tourist attractions within its compact area. Victoria Harbour and the Giant Buddha are among the most awe-inspiring.

DAY 18, 12 Sept - At Sea

# DAY 19, 13 Sept - Manila, Philippines

Arrive 8:00 AM, Depart 6:00 PM

Manila, the capital of the Philippines and the most densely populated city in the world, is located on the eastern shores of Manila Bay, on the western side of the island of Luzon. This metropolis has certainly come a long way from being a fortified

settlement and renowned trading centre in the 13th century. The city attracts over one million visitors from all over the world annually.

DAYS 20-25, 14 to 19 Sept - At Sea

#### DAY 26, 20 Sept - Milne Bay (Alotau), Papua New Guinea

Arrive 7:00 AM, Depart 6:00 PM

Milne Bay is home to almost five hundred islands, ranging from typical tropical islands and atolls through to huge volcanic and continental islands. It is situated at the easternmost inlet on the coast of mainland Papua New Guinea, and gives good access to coral reefs and diving. With no roads connecting it to the rest of the world, it truly is a quiet piece of paradise.

#### DAY 27, 21 Sept - Conflict Islands, Papua New Guinea

Arrive 7:00 AM, Depart 6:00 PM

The Conflict Islands form an atoll in the Coral Sea, 115 km east of the eastern-most tip of Papua New Guinea, in the province of Milne Bay. Nineteen islands enclose a pear-shaped lagoon roughly 10 km by 22 km, plus two small islets in the lagoon. The Islands are owned freehold by international entrepreneur Ian Gowrie-Smith.

DAY 28, 22 Sept - At Sea

DAY 29, 23 Sept - At Sea

# DAY 30, 24 Sept - Brisbane, Australia

Arrive 8:00 AM, Depart 5:00 PM

Brisbane, the capital of Queensland, located in the sunshine state as it boasts of having over 280 days of sunshine per year. Brisbane is known for its laid back and friendly atmosphere, sophisticated art galleries and museums, beautiful botanic gardens, premium shopping in the heart of the CBD and Moreton Bay. The Brisbane River, which flows through the city, gives you great access to both north and south via the famous CityCats.

DAY 31, 25 Sept - At Sea

# DAY 32, 26 Sept - Arrive in Sydney

Arrive 6:00 AM to disembark

Sydney, the capital of New South Wales is located on the east coast of Australia. It is the most popular city to visit as it is best known for the iconic Sydney Harbour, amazing beaches, lush national parks and world-class restaurants. With Sydney Harbour Bridge and Sydney Opera House located around Circular Quay, Darling Harbour and the beautiful botanic gardens to the west and Australia's iconic Bondi Beach to the east, Sydney is certainly a great place to disembark!

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, ocean conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

#### **About Diamond Princess**

Diamond Princess first sailed in 2004 and the latest refurbishment was in 2017. She carries up to 2670 passengers and 1100 crew. As one of only two Princess ships built in Japan, it's not surprising this exotic gem can often be found sailing to the most intriguing destinations abroad. Freshly prepared sashimi compliments the ship's Japanese origin in Kai Sushi. Check out the street performers in the dazzling Atrium or take in a lavish production show in the state-of-the-art theatre. For a unique treat, visit the Izumi Japanese Bath, which is the largest of its kind at sea. Kids have their own age divided areas: The Treehouse for kids 3 to 7 years, The Lodge for kids 8 to 12, and for teens, The Beach House. Adults can head off to enjoy rejuvenating spa treatments and an adults-only tranquil retreat, The Sanctuary. The theatre offers Broadway-style productions, from the timeless classics to more modern hits. The cigar lounge is a favourite amongst smoking cruisers. Other amenities include a fully equipped gym, Movies Under the Stars, several nightclubs, a casino, shops, freshwater pools, a sports court, an internet café, a library and much more.

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